CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. An article comprising:

a machine-readable medium having instructions that when executed by a processor cause the step of

associating first image data and first method as part of an image object, the first method for being executed by an abstract machine to obtain first translated image data based upon the first image.

2. The article of claim 1 wherein the machine readable medium further comprises instructions that when executed by the processor cause the further step of:

associating second image data with the first method as part of the object, the first method for being executed by the abstract machine to obtain second translated image data based upon the second image data.

3. The article of claim 1 wherein the machine readable medium further comprises instructions that when executed by the processor cause the further step of:

associating second image data and second method as part of a second object, the second method for being executed by the abstract machine to obtain second translated image data based upon the second image data.

4. The article of claim 1 wherein the first translated data is in the same format as the first data.

5. An article comprising

a machine-readable medium having instructions that when executed by a processor cause the steps of

configuring a data processing system to receive first and second objects from first and second imaging devices, respectively, the objects having first and second image data and corresponding methods; and

an abstract machine executing the corresponding methods of each object to obtain first and second translated image data based upon the first and second image data, respectively.

6. The article of claim 5 wherein the first and second translated image data are in the same image file format.

7. A method comprising:

transferring an image object having first image data associated with a first method to a processing system; and

an abstract machine in said processing system executing the first method for generating first translated image data based upon the first image data.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

transferring a second object having second image data associated with a second method to the processing system, the first and second image data being in different formats; and

the abstract machine executing the second method generating second translated image data based upon the second image data, the first and second translated image data being in the same format.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising:

transferring second image data associated with the first method to the processing system; and

the abstract machine executing the first method generating second translated image data based upon the second image data, the first and second translated image data being in the same format.

10. An imaging device comprising:

image sensor for generating sensor data; and

memory for storing an image object having first image data being related to the sensor data and first image method for being executed by an abstract machine to obtain translated first image data based upon the first image data.

11. The imaging device of claim 10 wherein the first image data is the sensor data.

12. The imaging device of claim 10 further comprising

a processor; and

second memory having instructions that when executed by the processor cause processing the sensor data into the first image data.

13. The imaging device of claim 12 wherein the processing comprises performing an image processing methodology on the sensor data.

14. The imaging device of claim 10 further comprising:

logic circuitry for processing the sensor data into the first image data.

15. The imaging device of claim 14 wherein the logic circuitry performs a color interpolation algorithm on the sensor data.

16. The imaging device of claim 10 further comprising:

interface to a communication medium for transferring the first image data and the first method to a processing system separate from the

imaging device, the processing system being configured with said abstract machine.

17. The imaging device of claim 10 wherein the image object comprises a TIFF file, the TIFF file comprising the first image data and the first image method.

18. The imaging device of claim 10 wherein the translated first image data is part of an image file being in the Device Independent Bitmap (DIB) format.

19. The imaging device of claim 10 wherein the first image data and the translated first image data have the same image file format.

20. A data processing system comprising:

a processor;

memory coupled to the processor and having instructions that when executed by the processor cause the steps of

configuring the system to receive first and second objects from first and second imaging devices, respectively, each object having image data and a corresponding method; and

an abstract machine executing the corresponding method of each object to obtain corresponding translated data based upon the image data.

21. The system of claim 20 wherein

the translated data are part of first and second image files having the same image file format.